

an air bag normally containable in a deflated condition adjacent the opening and deployable through the opening as a protection for the occupant; and

a portion of the air bag closing the opening when the air bag is deflated such that the air bag is visible when in the deflated state adjacent the opening.

4. (Twice Amended) In combination, a vehicle having an air bag deployable upon vehicle impact and an occupant protection system for deploying a deployable air bag from a concealed location in a vehicle instrument panel having an opening, the protection system comprising:

an air bag normally containable in a deflated condition adjacent the opening and deployable upon vehicle impact through the opening as a protection for the occupant; and

a portion of the air bag closing the opening when the air bag is deflated such that the air bag is visible when in the deflated state adjacent the opening.

5. (Amended) The occupant protection system of claim 1 wherein the air bag that closes the opening is flush with the vehicle instrument panel.

6. (Amended) The combination of claim 4 wherein the air bag that closes the opening is flush with the vehicle instrument panel.